

Foreign Agricultural Service GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Voluntary Report - public distribution

GAIN Report #CH3070

Date: 5/15/2003

China, Peoples Republic of FAIRS Product Specific

Plant Quarantine Permits for Starches, French Fries, and Other Plant Products Waived 2003

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Report Highlights:

This is an UNOFFICIAL translation of Decree No. 43 of the General Administration for Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) of the People's Republic of China. Exporters should carefully discuss the decree and their application with Chinese importers to ensure that their interpretation of the decree is accurate.

This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in Beijing, People's Republic of China for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

Summary

Effective from June 1, 2003, this AQSIQ decree waives the requirement for quarantine permits before importation for eight types of plant products. However, these products are still subject to inspection and quarantine at the time of product entry. Currently, a quarantine permit for a plant or animal product needs to be obtained before signing a contract, and the product is subject to inspection and quarantine when entering the country.

BEGIN TRANSLATION AQSIQ Decree No. 43 (2003)

After a risk assessment, in an effort to perfect the quarantine review and approval process for entering animal and plant products, and it is determined that eight types of plant products, namely: corn starch, potato starch, manioc starch, other starches, modified starches, frozen potato strips (including frozen potatoes rounds, frozen hash browns, frozen raw potatoes, frozen French fries), porcelain clays, nutritional liquid for plants (free from animal-sourced ingredients, unprocessed parts of plant, and toxic or harmful substances) that have been processed before importation and are therefore considered to present low risks of carrying harmful organisms. The above-mentioned eight types of plant products will be deregulated from quarantine review and approval procedures as of June 1, 2003. The relevant enterprises engaged in importation of the eight types of plant products do not need to obtain a Quarantine Permit for Plant/Animal Entry beforehand. However, such products shall be declared to the inspection and quarantine agencies and subject to inspection and quarantine when entering the country.

Local inspection and quarantine agencies shall continue to facilitate the inspection and quarantine of the eight types of plant products, and shall continue to ensure that these products comply with the inspection and quarantine requirements of the country.

May 8, 2003

Appendix: catalog of plant products deregulated from entry quarantine review and approval procedures

Catalog of plant products deregulated from entry quarantine review and approval procedures

HS Code	Product name	Customs monitoring requirements	Inspection & quarantine category
11081200	Corn starch	A/B	P.R/Q.S
11081300	Potato starch	A/B	P.R/Q.S
11081400	Manioc starch	A/B	P.R/Q.S
11081900	Other starches	A/B	P.R/Q.S
35051000	Modified starches (including modified starches of potato, sweet potato, manioc, corn)	None	None
20041000	Frozen potato strips (including frozen potato rounds, frozen hash browns, frozen raw potatoes, frozen French fries)	A/B	P.R/Q.S
25070000	Porcelain clays	None	None
31010090	Nutritional liquid for plant (not containing animal-sourced ingredients or unprocessed plant parts, or toxic/harmful substances)	None	None

Notes:

1. Customs monitoring requirements:

A-subject to entry inspection and quarantine;

B-subject to exit inspection and quarantine.

2. Inspection and quarantine category:

P-quarantine of entry plants/animals and their products;

R-hygienic inspection of entry foodstuffs;

Q-quarantine of exit plants/animals and their products;

S-hygienic inspection of exit foodstuffs.

END TRANSLATION